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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
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Agenda item 15

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Draft resolution submitted by Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Ms. Attah, Mr. Chernichenko, Ms. Daes and Mr. Hatano

1992/... International Year for the World's Indigenous People

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in the Charter, is the achievement of international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without discrimination as to race, sex, language or religion,

GE.92-13555/0500K (E)

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/164 of 18 December 1990 proclaiming 1993 as International Year for the World's Indigenous People, and welcoming General Assembly resolution 46/128 of 17 December 1991 adopting the theme "Indigenous people - a new partnership" and the Programme of activities for the International Year for the World's Indigenous People;

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/35 of 27 May 1988 encouraging all States to ensure that educational and informational activities, including national celebrations, give an accurate interpretation of history and do not perpetuate or justify theories of racial superiority or the subjugation of indigenous or other peoples,

Convinced that all United Nations operational bodies and specialized agencies should make practical contributions to protecting the rights and improving the conditions of indigenous peoples through direct cooperation with organizations and communities of indigenous peoples, particularly in the developing countries;

Mindful of the recommendations made in the second working paper (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1991/39) submitted by Mr. Asbjørn Eide and Ms. Christy Mbonu,

Taking account of the report, and in particular the recommendations, of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations on its tenth session (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1992/33) and the relevant discussions, proposals and conclusions of the technical meetings convened by the Coordinator of the International Year for considering matters of special interest to the indigenous peoples,

Taking account also of the conclusions of the First World Indigenous Youth Conference, held at Quebec City, Canada, in July 1992, and of the importance of strengthening the role of indigenous youth in world affairs,

Noting that the World Conference on Human Rights will take place during the International Year for the World's Indigenous People and that there is an imperative need for the Conference to consider, inter alia, issues related to the rights of indigenous peoples,

1. Emphasizes the fundamental importance of the effective participation of indigenous peoples in every aspect of decision-making concerning the International Year for the World's Indigenous People at the national, regional and international levels;

2. Appeals with a sense of urgency to Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and international educational and business institutions, to contribute generously to the voluntary fund established to support United Nations projects and activities for the International Year.

3. Authorizes the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, Mrs. Erica-Irene Daes, to represent the Sub-Commission at the opening ceremonies for the International Year in New York;

4. Urges the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights to consider convening a special preparatory meeting for indigenous peoples early in 1993;

5. Recommends that the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights ensures that indigenous peoples are able to participate effectively in the Conference without regard to consultative status, and also recommends that the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations be invited to participate in the Conference in her capacity as Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group;

6. Recommends that the United Nations University establish affiliations with indigenous educational institutions and that United Nations International Schools invite indigenous youth to participate in their programmes of instruction, so as to build awareness of indigenous peoples among non-indigenous youth;

7. Reaffirms the importance of the expert evaluation of the International Year by Ms. Christy Mbonu and expresses the hope that this will be taken into account by the Coordinator of the International Year within the framework of paragraph 8 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/45 of 3 March 1992 and paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 46/128;

8. Recommends that Ms. Mbonu be invited to participate in the opening ceremonies for the International Year in New York;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to draw the present resolution to the attention of the Coordinator of the International Year, the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights, the United Nations University and United Nations International Schools.